

South Los Angeles Industrial Tract BID
Interim Board of Directors Meeting
May 16, 2007 at 11:00am
American Central Plaza 1026 East 59th Street

In attendance: Duke Dulgarian, Greg Goodman, Matt Mullen, Barry Croxen, Steve Stone, Don Stone, Oscar Ixco, John Irigoyen, Oscar Avina, Susan Levi, Tracy Krauss

- I. Meeting called to order 11:15 am
- II. **Introductions** – Stone introduced Don Stone
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – Stone requested the minutes be amended to reflect that his property that was burned is not vacant as noted and there was substantial damage. **Motion to approve minutes as revised by Croxen/Goodman, Stone abstains carried.**
- IV. **Public Comments** – None.
- V. **LADWP Contract** – Levi stated this issue was tabled because the BID is awaiting a flat rate amount for the outdoor lighting. Ixco stated the flat rate is coming from BSL. Levi asked if the BID is waiting for DWP to provide a flat rate as well. Ixco stated this is already negotiated but has not yet been executed for the 30 interior cameras and the CRA would be paying for the first year. Stone asked when the cameras would be operational. Ixco stated there are 2 issues that are causing the delay. The cameras must be plugged in to a power source with 120 volts, which the existing poles do not provide. An alternative plan that was discussed is installing additional lights for the cameras to be plugged in to. Ixco stated Dulgarian has signed the contract to install the lights and the CRA is currently awaiting DWP to schedule the installation and once that is complete the cameras would be plugged in. This should happen in approximately 1 week. The installation of 32 cameras on the exterior of the Tract is pending BSL approval and this has been a lengthy process. BSL has many checklist items that must be completed first. One of the items is a letter from the BID to BSL, which was presented in the meeting packet. Once approval is granted by BSL the cameras will be installed. Ixco stated the CRA is discussing with another vendor the possibility of completely replacing the guard booth, as the existing booth has many problems. The guard booth would also house the DVD equipment and have 24-hour surveillance. Ixco anticipates a lot of progress during the next month. Once the cameras are installed the gate arms will also be fixed since there are no cameras to monitor them currently and they would be vandalized. Irigoyen stated that from his experience it is better to house a back up of the equipment at the base because if people want to commit crimes they will first locate the equipment to either steal or vandalize it. Ixco stated that possibility was discussed but there is a lot of activity in the office and it would jeopardize the integrity of the video. Levi stated there was discussion of building a small room in the corner of the office with the generator being on the outside of the window. Ixco stated the

CRA is looking into that possibility. Ixco stated the new guard booth would be bulletproof and very secure. Goodman asked if it was a good idea to put the booth in the middle of the street. Irigoyen stated it's a great idea to have the booth but there should be a back up for the equipment and the booth should be manned 24 hours a day. Ixco stated he would speak with the contractor to ask about all of the possibilities and will bring proposals to the next meeting. Dulgarian stated that this project needs to be pushed as hard as possible to get others in the Tract to realize that the board and BID is making progress. Dulgarian stated this is particularly important because the BID only has a 2-year time frame to get things done.

VI. Security

a. UPS Update – Levi reported that there was a lot of activity in the BID yesterday. 3 suspects with firearms were at Bank of America and were forcing people coming out of the bank to the ATM machine to take out cash. These same perpetrators then carjacked someone on McKinley Avenue and were arrested when they returned to the person they carjacked in order to get the PIN number for the ATM card. Levi presented the statistics for the month of April. Goodman asked if the statistics from the previous month could be included as well in order to compare the trends. Levi stated they would be. Levi stated UPS made 2 arrests of transients in the area, 1 of which was violent. Goodman asked where this occurred. Avina stated on 62nd Street. Stone asked if Avina saw these transients regularly. Avina stated they are familiar to the area and have been chased away previously. Levi stated there has been a lot of public intoxication but it is from the employees in the area who are hanging out and drinking after work. UPS is putting a stop to this practice. Levi informed the board that a green tag is a courtesy notice that is left on vehicles if security finds the vehicle unlocked or valuables left in sight. The note tells the vehicle owner to be careful. Dulgarian asked about the blocking sidewalks line item, as there aren't any sidewalks in the BID. Avina stated there are some sidewalks in front of businesses, such as Bank of America, but that is mostly for when people are obstructing a business, door or traffic. Dulgarian asked about bus stop checks. Avina stated UPS randomly checks the bus stops to make sure those waiting for the bus are secure and they get on the bus safely. Levi stated the post office has been having problems with several of their employees being robbed and assaulted after leaving work so security is patrolling the bus stops more often. UPS is working with LAPD on this issue as well. Levi stated there are more narcotics in the area with UPS finding both empty and full bags. UPS found a bag with approximately \$200 worth of marijuana, which was turned over to LAPD. Levi stated UPS has been very active in making contact with the businesses and employees in the area, as well as visitors. Croxen asked how the street racing issue is going. Avina stated it would be helpful if businesses had no loitering signs posted. Levi stated the next item on the agenda is for speed humps.

b. Speed Bumps – Levi stated this line item should actually be speed humps. Levi met several business and property owners during the Mayor's Day of

Service and the problem is not only the street racing but also employees speeding down the street returning from lunch. This opened the discussion of speed humps. Levi stated the humps would be the smaller ones that are only about 3 feet wide to allow trucks to access the area but the BID would need to be careful with placement so as not to block loading bays. Levi spoke with the CRA and understands the BID was previously against speed humps but they would help to slow down traffic. Stone stated the humps would have to be placed at the property line so that people couldn't go around them, bringing them closer to the buildings and creating a greater hazard. Levi stated it is an action item but DOT has to do an investigation to see if the streets qualify. The council office initiated the investigation and if it's feasible the board could decide at that time. Croxen stated that Kelly Burton did not seem well informed of the meeting dates and times. Levi stated the meeting dates and times have been changing but she does speak with Burton every week or two and has invited him to join the board but he said he is too busy. Dulgarian asked if the crime stats would be included in the next newsletter. Levi stated they would be. Croxen stated UPS is doing a great job and there is a noticeable difference. Mullen asked if all of the incidents reported are separate or if some overlap. Levi stated some, such as loitering and drinking, do overlap. Goodman asked if something could be included on the list for illegal dumping. Avina stated it would be put on the list. Levi stated that in the Environmental Affairs newsletter there was an article about illegal dumping. EA applied for a grant and worked with BSS to identify 60 locations to concentrate on for illegal dumping. Levi stated she left a message for the Project Manager asking why South LA was not on the list and she is seeing if the grant is still available. Levi asked Ixco who is paying the \$2000 required by BSL. Ixco stated Symis would be paying and the email from Horowitz indicated the permit is not transferable so it would be issued in the BID's name. Levi stated the speed humps are being investigated and asked if the feedback comes back positive if the board is in favor. Goodman stated the board should wait for DOT to respond. **Tabled.**

VII. Maintenance Services

- a. Mayor's Day of Service Update** – Levi stated there weren't as many people as she had anticipated for the day. 40 kids were expected but only 1 showed, as there was some confusion and they thought it was on Sunday, not Saturday. Security all helped, Oscar Ixco, Krauss, Levi and some others did attend and there was approximately 12 volunteers. The volunteers cleaned all of McKinley including graffiti, sweeping and dead rats. The city also sent out a dump truck for the day and it was filled to capacity with bulky items.
- b. LACC Update** – LACC sent out Clean and Green last week and they worked on Stanford and 62nd Street. Levi is still trying to arrange the CD9 Clean Up day, which would include more dump trucks and people. UPS has been going out during the slower hours to paint out graffiti with the leftover paint from the Mayor's Day of Service. Avina stated UPS has picked up and piled almost 35 tires for pick up. Levi stated UPS is patrolling and picking up trash as

well, then calling the city for the pick-ups. Stone stated something is piled across the street from his property. Avina stated he would call for a pick up.

VIII. New Business

Stone asked about scheduling a meeting where all of the owners could be invited. Levi stated it is not planned yet and the BID is required to have an annual meeting but ideally it would be held after the cameras are installed. The board would present everything that has been accomplished at that meeting and without the cameras being operational there would be a lot of angry people at the meeting. Dulgarian stated that is a good idea. Croxen asked how the board could get people to attend and that perhaps providing food and beverages would encourage them. Levi stated in the Sherman Oaks BID the annual meeting was initially a party held at a restaurant but the number of people was less and less each year but SLAIT might be different. Levi stated once the cameras are up, arrests are being made and the area is cleaner the board would be able to appease some of the people who think nothing is happening. Stone stated he is a big proponent of still shots and arrest reports being presented at the meeting. Levi stated once the suspect is convicted the DVD's can be shown. Croxen stated a lot of the anger is at the system and society and if there is a meeting the commander from Newton should attend so the stakeholders could speak with LAPD directly. Goodman asked about Jan Perry. Levi stated she invited Maria and Hugo to attend the BID meetings but did not hear back. Levi stated at the annual meeting some of the stakeholders with success stories should speak as well.

IX. Next Meeting Date – Levi stated the meetings were changed from Mondays to Wednesdays to accommodate the senior lead officers' schedules. Anderson cannot attend on Wednesdays and Fridays work best for him. Levi asked the board how they feel about Fridays. Croxen stated he is very busy but rearranges his priorities to attend the meeting. Levi stated she would like to announce the regular meeting date and time in the next newsletter. Stone asked if the meetings would be at 11am. Levi stated they would. All present members agreed to the 2nd Friday of the month at 11am for meetings. Croxen asked if the next meeting would be on June 8th. Levi stated it is but if there are no action items the meeting would be cancelled.

X. The meeting adjourned at 11:53 am